

REMARKS

Claims 6-9, 12 and 14-16 are pending in this application. Claims 6 and 14-15 are independent. Claims 1-5, 10-11 and 13 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter included therein. In light of the amendments and remarks made herein, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

By this amendment, Applicant has amended the claims to more appropriately recite the claimed invention. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments are being made without conceding the propriety of the Examiners' rejections, but merely to timely advance prosecution of the present application.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 6, 7, 9, and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wakui (USP 5,648,816) in view of Sasson (USP 5,016,107) and further in view of Ejima (USP 5,805,219); and rejected claims 8, 10, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sasson, Wakui and Ejima and further in view of Watanabe (USP 4,887,161). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Examiner Interview

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner and his Supervisor for the Interview conducted on December 15, 2009. During the Interview, the parties discussed the differences between the claimed invention and the cited art. The parties further discussed amendments to the claims to clarify the claimed invention. The parties agreed that the amendments as discussed during the Interview would overcome the outstanding rejections.

It is respectfully submitted that the amendments and arguments here are made further to the discussion during the Interview.

Prior Art Rejections

By this amendment, Applicant has amended the independent claims to further recite wherein said detachable memory card is for attachment when the digital camera is not being used

to capture images and is detached when the digital camera is being used to capture images and when said detachable memory card is inserted into the slot, more than 1/3 of said detachable memory card is exposed in an insertional direction of said detachable memory card. As discussed during the Interview, the cited art fails to teach or suggest these elements. As such, it is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejections be withdrawn.

In addition, Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a Terminal Disclaimer terminally disclaiming U.S. Patent No. 6,208,380.

Based on the amendments and submissions made herein, Applicant respectfully submits this application is now in proper form for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Catherine M. Voisin Reg. No. 52,327 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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